

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A computer system apparatus comprising: a client computer providing a browser and a decompression module; at least one compression proxy comprising a CPU, a memory means, means for sending requests, means for receiving requests, means for sending data, means for receiving data, and data compression means; and a server; the client computer, compression proxy and server, interconnected through a wide area network; 10 the compression proxy further interconnected to a user database.
2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the client computer further comprises a software module providing a transformation means.
3. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a caching proxy.
4. A computer system method comprising the steps of: receiving requests for data from a 15 client computer; checking authorization of the requests for data; rejecting unauthorized requests for data; sending authorized requests for data to a server; receiving data from the server; checking if the data are suitable for compression; sending unsuitable data to the client computer; compressing data suitable for compression; sending compressed data to the client computer.
- 20 5. The method according to claim 4 further comprising the step of changing the requests for data according to an HTTP requirement.
6. The method according to claim 4 further comprising the step of providing a credentials field and a user field in each of a plurality of database records.
7. The method according to claim 6 further comprising the step of performing the 25 operations of adding a user, deleting a user, and looking up credentials, on the database records.
8. The method according to claim 6 further comprising the step of setting client credentials in a proxy-authorization field of a HTTP request.

9. The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of using a lossless compression method.
10. The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of increasing a maximum number of connections allowed between the client computer and the proxy computer.
- 5 11. The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of using a file extension of a requested URL in determining a destination of a data request.
12. The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of connecting the client computer through one of a dial up network and a wireless network.
- 10 13. A computer system method comprising the steps of: searching a credentials lookup table for a client computer; authorizing the client computer if credentials of the client computer are found in the credentials lookup table; searching a database for the client computer if the client computer is not found in the credentials lookup table; authorizing the client computer if the client computer is found in the database and the client computer has approved credentials; rejecting the client computer if the client computer is not found in the lookup table nor in the database; storing an IP address of the client computer if the client computer is authorized; allowing all requests from the stored IP address for a selected period of time; and renewing credentials after the selected period of time has elapsed.
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